

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~rod-type~~ rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus comprising:

a ~~rod-type~~ rod-shaped solid-state laser medium having an outer diameter and pumped by a semiconductor laser;

a pair of fixing rings, each fixing ring being placed around ~~an~~ a respective end of the solid-state laser medium and having an inner diameter approximately equal to the outer diameter of the solid-state laser medium, and formed having an outer surface, at least with part or all of its outer face of which is tapered;

a pair of ~~rod holders~~ plates, each plate being placed around one of the fixing rings and having a tapered inner face facing the fixing ring and tapered at an angle approximately equal to the tapered outer face of the fixing ring; and

a pair of pressing members, each ~~for~~ pressing member pressing one of the fixing rings ~~to against~~ one of the ~~rod holders~~ plates on ~~it's~~ the tapered inner face and ~~also to against~~ the solid-state laser medium, ~~and for~~ fixing the solid-state laser medium to the rod holder.

2. (Currently Amended) A ~~rod-type~~ rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus comprising:

a ~~rod-type~~ rod-shaped solid-state laser medium having an outer diameter and pumped by a semiconductor laser;

a pair of fixing rings, each fixing ring being placed around ~~an~~ a respective end of the solid-state laser medium and having an inner diameter ~~being~~ approximately equal to the outer diameter of the solid-state laser medium, and composed of material having a Young's modulus greater no smaller than or equal to 300 MPa and less than the Young's modulus of the solid-state laser medium;

a pair of plate-shaped rod holders, each plate-shaped rod holder placed around one of the fixing rings and ~~each~~ having a tapered inner face; and

a pair of pressing members, each ~~for~~ pressing member pressing one of the fixing rings ~~to against~~ the tapered inner face of one of the rod holders and ~~also to against~~ the solid-state laser medium, ~~and for~~ fixing the solid-state laser medium to the rod holder.

3. (Currently Amended) A ~~rod-type~~ rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus comprising:

a ~~rod-type~~ rod-shaped solid-state laser medium having an outer diameter and pumped

by a semiconductor laser;

a pair of fixing rings, each fixing ring being placed around ~~an~~ a respective end of the solid-state laser medium and having an inner diameter ~~being~~ approximately equal to the outer diameter of the solid-state laser medium, and ~~formed with~~ including a cylindrically shaped face facing the solid-state laser medium;

a pair of plate-shaped rod holders, each plate-shaped rod holder being placed around one of the fixing rings and ~~each~~ having a tapered inner face; and

a pair of pressing members, each ~~for~~ pressing member pressing one of the fixing rings ~~to~~ against the tapered inner face of one of the rod holders and ~~also to~~ against the solid-state laser medium, ~~and for~~ fixing the solid-state laser medium to the rod holder.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~rod-type~~ rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus according to ~~any one of claims claim 1 to 3~~, wherein: the rod holder ~~is provided with~~ includes a space for ~~setting~~ retaining an O-ring; and ~~the an O-ring being set in the space is used to seal,~~ sealing out a coolant medium that cools the solid-state laser medium.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~rod-type~~ rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the fixing ring is ~~made of~~ material having a Young's modulus ~~greater no smaller than or equal to~~ 300 MPa, and less than the Young's modulus of the solid-state laser medium.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~rod-type~~ rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus according to ~~any one of claims claim 1, 2, or 5~~, wherein a face of the fixing ring, which faces the solid-state laser medium, has a cylindrical shape.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~rod-type~~ rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus according to ~~any one of claims claim 1 to 3~~, wherein the fixing ring ~~material~~ is a fluorinated resin.

8. (Canceled)

9. (New) The rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the outer diameter is less than 4mm.

10. (New) The rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus according to claim 1, further

comprising a base to which the plate-shaped rod holder is fixed by screws.

11. (New) The rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the outer diameter is less than 4mm.

12. (New) The rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the rod holder includes a space for retaining an O-ring and an O-ring set in the space sealing out a coolant medium that cools the solid-state laser medium.

13. (New) The rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus according to claim 2, wherein a face of the fixing ring, which faces the solid-state laser medium, has a cylindrical shape.

14. (New) The rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the fixing ring is a fluorinated resin.

15. (New) The rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising a base to which the plate-shaped rod holder is fixed by screws.

16. (New) The rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the outer diameter is less than 4mm.

17. (New) The rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the rod holder includes a space for retaining an O-ring and an O-ring set in the space sealing out a coolant medium that cools the solid-state laser medium.

18. (New) The rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the fixing ring is a fluorinated resin.

19. (New) The rod-shaped solid-state laser apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising a base to which the plate-shaped rod holder is fixed by screws.